

NATIONAL

Senate confirms Gov. Perry for Energy

By Lisa Dreher
@lisa_dreher97

The U.S. Senate confirmed former Texas governor Rick Perry to head the Department of Energy on Thursday.

The Senate voted 62 to 37, making Perry the secretary of a department he promised to abolish in 2011. The department mainly oversees the country’s nuclear weapons, energy resources and environmental research. Perry has made decisions in the past to cut back regulation of natural gas and oil companies, including signing a state bill in 2003 that gives a tax break to natural gas companies.

Perry saw economic growth in energy during his tenure as governor, especially in wind power after Texas became the nation’s top producer of wind energy in 2006. Perry boosted wind energy usage after signing a bill in 2005 requiring the state to produce up to 5,880 megawatts by 2015.

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UT astronomers discuss seven newly-discovered planets at

dailytexanonline.com

CAMPUS

Drug, alcohol arrests see downswing

By Catherine Marfin
@catherinemarfin

The majority of liquor law and drug violations on campus have been in steady decline since 2013, according to the University’s most recent reports.

Drug abuse violations on campus resulting in arrest have decreased by 28 percent, while liquor law violations resulting in arrest have decreased by 64 percent, according to the 2016 Annual Security and Fire

Safety Report. The report contains crime statistics and incident reports from 2013 to 2015 that resulted in criminal arrests as well as disciplinary referrals taken by the University. The 2017 report for the 2016 calendar year has not been released.

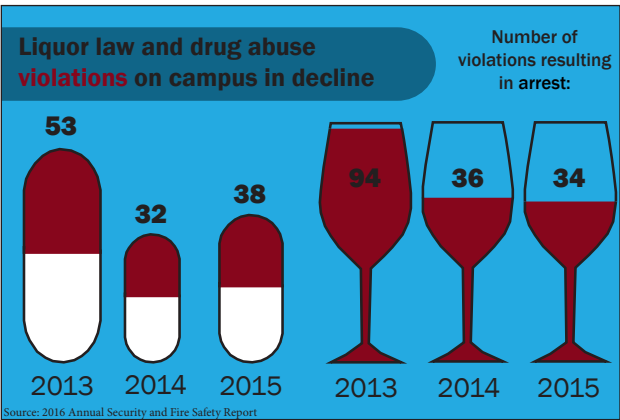
While the numbers in the report do reflect a decrease in incidents, they can be misleading, UT Police Department Lt. Greg Stephenson said.

An arrest is defined as an officer holding someone in their

custody and releasing them once a determination of criminal activity has been made, Stephenson said. By this definition, even minor traffic stops resulting in a citation can qualify as an arrest in official crime reports.

Because officers have the option to write an offender a citation on some drug and alcohol offenses instead of taking them into custody, total arrest reports don’t necessarily exclude these citations.

ARRESTS page 2



Infographic by Sierra Garcia | Daily Texan Staff

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Carter, Guzman campaigns head to runoff

By Kayla Meyertons
@kemeyertons

Under the glowing Tower Thursday night, the Election Supervisory Board made an important announcement to a crowd gathered on the Main Mall — runoffs are coming.

The campus-wide elections for student body president and vice president started March 15 between the three executive alliances of Isaiah Carter and Sydney O’Connell, Alejandrina Guzman and Micky Wolf and Blake Burley and Robert Guerra. The Carter-O’Connell and Guzman-Wolf tickets will have a runoff election starting next Wednesday, March 8 at 8 a.m. and lasting until March 9 at 5 p.m.

The Guzman-Wolf ticket received 4098 votes and 39.11 percent of the vote. The Carter-O’Connell campaign received 3445 votes and 32.87 percent of the vote, and the Burley-Guerra campaign received 2831 votes and 27.01 percent of the vote.

However, at 5:47 p.m., a little over an hour before the election announcements, student body presidential candidate Blake Burley received an email from the ESB regarding a Class D violation for failing to submit financial disclosures on time, disqualifying the alliance from the election.

Micky Wolf, Plan II and business honors junior, said the Guzman-Wolf ticket is going to run a better version of the campaign than they ran during the first election cycle.

“We’re really passionate about what we’re doing,” Wolf

SG page 3



The Election Supervisory Board announced Thursday night that the tickets of Guzman-Wolf, top, and Carter-O’Connell, bottom, will have a runoff to decide the winner. The runoff will start next Wednesday, March 8 at 8 a.m. and last until March 9 at 5 p.m.



Gabriel Lopez & Emmanuel Briseno
Daily Texan Staff

FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO thedailytexan



Brooke Crim | Daily Texan Staff

Samuel Lewis unloads chairs for the Texas Independence Day Gala at the Bullock Texas State History Museum.

STATE

Lawmaker takes aim at ‘Bad Bills’ in videos

By Mikaela Cannizo
@mikaelac16

State Representative Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford, is taking a novel approach to derailing legislation he doesn’t like: Once a week, he castigates a bill with a Facebook video series titled “Bad Bill of the Week.”

Stickland, a conservative Republican, targets sponsors as he derides bills in the videos. He ends by asking viewers to call the sponsors.

He criticized House Bill 1, the proposed state budget, as too free-spending in his latest video. He told viewers to

call the bill’s author, Rep. John Zerwas, R-Richmond, and “let him know we need to get back to conservative, limited government.”

“I think in general it’s harnessing the grassroots who are concerned about things, and they don’t know what to do about it,” Stickland said. “We’re just trying to fill that void and give them a clear understanding of something they can do to have an impact, and they seem very eager to do it.”

The videos typically receive about 30,000 views. Empower Texans and Texas Right to Life,

BAD BILLS page 2

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High
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Low
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Solomon knows no mercy.

ARRESTS

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“So sometimes you may see stats that say there were 20 minor in possession arrests made — well those may have been citations where people just sign their ticket and left. But that can also mean somebody was actually taken to jail,” Stephenson said.

While liquor law violations resulting in disciplinary referrals have decreased by 15 percent, drug abuse violations resulting in disciplinary referrals have increased by 30 percent since 2013.

The report, however, does not include any cases in which student amnesty applies, a policy which states any student seeking emergency medical assistance for alcohol or drug overdoses are not subject to criminal or disciplinary proceedings.

The amount of amnesty cases that occur on campus each year is generally small, said Anel Fils-Aime, director of student conduct and academic integrity.

These UT policies result in ambiguity that makes it difficult to determine what disciplinary action would be taken in each case, Fils-Aime said.

“It may be that officially it’s an alcohol incident, but it might have been an alcohol incident with a fight or with threats of violence,” Fils-Aime said. “There might be a number of different ... factors that may involve alcohol in some way.”

Because an incident of alcohol violation may include other offenses, the Office of the Dean of Students and its disciplinary offices cannot speculate or directly define what disciplinary action will occur in each instance.

“The hard part is that the possible sanctions are all the Institutional Rules,” said Sara Kennedy, manager of strategic and executive communications for the Dean of Students. “We can’t speculate because each case is different.”

While the report reflects a decrease in alcohol incidents occurring on campus properties, the underlying reasons behind this decrease are hard to determine, Stephenson said.

“It’s so hard to judge these things given that we have a (changing) population every year,” Stephenson said. “It would have to do with a bunch of societal changes, like maybe Housing and Food Services is doing a better job explaining to the kids what’s going on, but there are so many variables, (it’s impossible to say).”

CAMPUS

Muslim leaders assess views of Islam in US

By Chase Karacostas
@chasekaracostas

To combat anti-Muslim rhetoric, students held a panel Thursday to discuss how perceptions of Islam in the U.S. have changed since the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The Texas Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Organization brought four Muslim leaders from different sects of Islam to speak to students about their lives and answer questions about their religion.

“It’s just a way to get exposed to different types of Muslims and different people that are living in America,” said Mutahir Ahmad, neuroscience junior and president of AMSO. “It’s a way to show everyone that even a Muslim who has been raised very strictly in the religion can still be an American.”

Brother Robert Muhammad of The Nation of Islam Austin spoke about converting to Islam after crack

cocaine tore apart his family in the early 1990s. Muhammad said Islam offered a new chance at life away from drug dealing, crime and his father, an alcoholic turned crack addict who left him when he was 16.

Muhammad said the U.S. created the need for measures such as “extreme vetting” and the travel ban through its own actions.

“You may not know it, but American foreign policy has made enemies all over the planet in the name of the American citizenship,” Muhammad said. “When that has happened, you’ve produced individuals that in their ignorance ... begin to lash out at American citizens as a whole.”

Propaganda is the biggest source of misconception about Islam, according to Brother Mustafaa Carroll. Only 6 percent of terrorist plots in this country over the last 16 years were coordinated by Muslims, yet Muslims are still blamed as



Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff
Brother Robert Muhammad speaks at a panel hosted by the Texas Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Organization to combat anti-Muslim views on Thursday night.

a major source of terrorism in the U.S., Carroll said.

Biochemistry sophomore Sophie Umar said the panel gave her hope for the future of Muslims in the U.S.

“I definitely do feel a lot more hopeful, especially with what they said about what we can do to move forward from here,” Umar said. “Things will change over time, so it definitely provides a lot of hope for

things going on today.”

Carroll ended the panel by saying Muslim oppression and marginalization won’t last forever.

“If you’ve been around a while, you know this kind of stuff doesn’t last,” Carroll said. “The great thing about being a citizen in this country is we talk about our (issues) ... so I think it’s going to pass (and) it’s going to get better.”

CAMPUS

After delays, IM fields will reopen March 7

By Eric Goodman
@egood_

The Whitaker Sports Complex, UT’s newly-renovated outdoor recreational sports facility, will open March 7, according to an announcement from the Department of Recreational Sports Thursday.

RecSports said the facility will be open Tuesday for student use and club sports practices, while three intramural sports — flag football, 7-on-7 soccer and sand volleyball — will all begin play March 20, the Monday after spring break.

In October 2015, the outdoor facility closed for a \$23 million complete reconstruction of the 35-acre property designed to make the facility safer and more environmentally friendly, according to Jennifer Speer, director of communications, assessment, development and IT for RecSports.

Speer said the renovation will re-establish the complex as “one of the premier outdoor

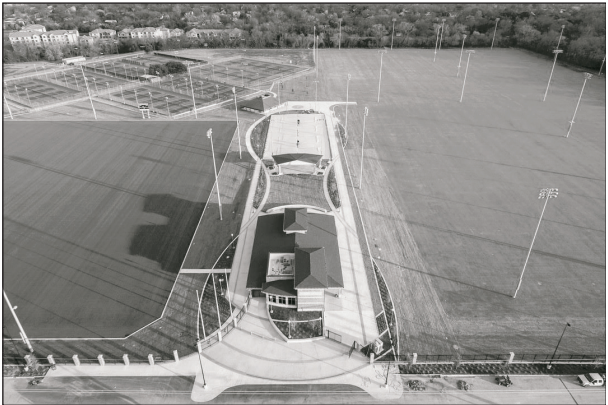
sports facilities in the nation,” a distinction Speer said the facility held when it was originally built in 1980.

“This is now a destination for students to go to do more than just play games,” Speer said. “I know students are desperate for spaces to throw frisbee and kick a ball on campus, and we’re happy to provide that green space.”

Speer said the facility has been redesigned to accommodate student organization meetings and informal outdoor activities.

The project was originally scheduled for completion in the fall 2016 semester, but weather and construction delays have kept the facility’s gates shut well into the spring. A full RecSports staff of nearly 150 student employees has been unable to work in full capacity while the fields have been closed, as The Daily Texan reported earlier this week.

RecSports referee Jack Lytle said he’s relieved to begin working IM games and plans



Courtesy of Rec Sports
The Whitaker Sports Complex, UT’s newly-renovated outdoor recreational sports facility, will open March 7, after undergoing a \$23 million dollar renovation.

to use the facility often himself.

“It’s something I think has been needed for a while and it’ll be fun just to go out and play,” Lytle said.

Ten sports clubs have been forced to find alternative facilities to practice and host games because of the construction.

Daniele Brambilla, a civil engineering sophomore who plays goalkeeper for the men’s

soccer club, said he is thrilled to have a proper goal to defend at practice for the first time in nearly 16 months.

“At Clark (Field), we didn’t really feel welcome there,” Brambilla said. “It was always up in the air whether we were going to have practice each day. We know when they open up (Whitaker) it’s going to be our field, our time, and we’re going to own it.”

BAD BILLS

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two conservative nonprofits, feature Stickland’s videos on “The Jim & Michael Show,” a Sunday night Facebook Live program hosted by Empower Texans President Michael Quinn Sullivan and Jim Graham, Texas Right to Life executive director.

Following the Sunday night program, Stickland posts the videos to his official Facebook page Monday mornings.

Stickland said hundreds of viewers have called or emailed him to say they contacted legislators after watching his videos, but Rep. Donna Howard, D-Austin, said she considers the videos a side issue with little impact.

In a video posted Feb. 6 that accumulated more than 47,000 views, Stickland criticized Howard’s House Bill 391. The bill allows universities and

other public institutions to opt out of the campus carry law, which allows licensed holders to carry concealed handguns at public universities in Texas.

Howard said she received phone calls in opposition to and support of the bill and suggested on social media that her constituents call Stickland’s offices. Stickland confirmed he received calls from Howard’s constituents and said he views the attention as an indicator the videos are working. Howard said she thinks otherwise.

“It’s really kind of an expectation among most members here that Representative Stickland is going to use these kinds of tactics to rally the small base of support that he has,” Howard said. “In the longer, greater scheme of things here, it’s not going to have much of an impact.”

Mark Jones, political scientist and Rice University professor, ranked Stickland the most conservative representative



Courtesy of Jonathan Stickland
State Representative Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford, criticizes various filed bills each week in his video series titled Bad Bill of the Week.

in Texas during the 83rd Legislature in 2013. In previous sessions, Stickland authored bills restricting abortion and prohibiting individual email accounts from search without a warrant.

Melissa Conway, director of external relations for Texas Right to Life, said Empower

Texans and Texas Right to Life jointly produce the videos at no cost.

“Jim and Michael use the bad bill of the week to shine a real key spotlight on what is happening in the dark recesses of the Capitol and to really allow Texans to then have a voice,” Conway said.

PERRY

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During a Republican presidential debate in 2011, Perry said three departments, including the Department of Commerce and the Department of Education, were unnecessary. Perry forgot the third during the debate, but later identified it as the Department of Energy.

Perry said in January he regretted vowing to dissolve the department he now oversees.

“My past statements, made over five years ago about abolishing the Department of Energy, do not reflect my current thinking,” Perry said. “In fact, after being briefed on so many of the vital functions of the Department of

Energy, I regret recommending its elimination.”

U.S. Senator Patty Murray, D-Washington, said Perry is unfit to head the department given his past pushback against environmental activists.

“Perry would join the ranks of other unqualified candidates chosen by this president to lead critically important agencies with very specific and complex functions,” Patty said Thursday before the Senate.

When British Petroleum’s Deepwater Horizon rig exploded in 2010, spilling millions of barrels of oil into the Gulf Coast, Perry said he did not want drilling to end because the spill’s cause was unknown at the time.

“I hope we don’t see a knee-

jerk reaction across this country that says we’re going to shut down drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, because the cost to this country will be staggering,” Perry said in 2010.

Perry, however, signed a bill in 2011 requiring hydraulic fracturing companies to disclose which chemicals they used to extract natural gas and oil by drilling into the earth’s rock layers.

Doug Snyder, University Democrats’ communications director, said Perry is not qualified like past nuclear physicists appointed for the position.

“No one should be put in charge of an agency they have ... heavily voiced the abolishment of,” Snyder said. “Rick Perry is not an educated or

qualified person for the position. I think both Scott Pruitt and Perry have expressed their support for deregulation of environmental protections and a general support for fossil fuels, drilling and fracking and the building of pipeline.”

Government junior Office Wiseman said Perry is qualified given he oversaw a state with heavy interests in oil and natural gas.

“Texas is pretty huge on wind turbine energy and things of that nature, so he may have some background knowledge on how to make it flourish as far as taking the wealth of knowledge that this state allows him to be able to do,” Wiseman said.

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CAMPUS

Naval ROTC captures silver in drill competition

By Christian Muñoz
@RemoteChris

The UT Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps is celebrating a second place finish at a prestigious national competition last week.

The team placed in the platoon basic drill event at the 2017 Mardi Gras Drill Meet, held at Tulane University Feb. 24. More than 20 colleges and universities competed at the meet.

Winning second place is a huge accomplishment for the team, said Jobin Murickan, computer science senior and NROTC battalion commanding officer. The team only had about four weeks of practice before going to competition, Murickan said.

"It feels good because we have never placed in recent memory," Murickan said. "We've been working on this event the hardest. Most teams spend the whole year preparing, so we're really proud of ourselves."

The platoon basic drill event consists of the team marching in perfect synchronization, Murickan said.

"We have a platoon of 17 people and we all march in sync," Murickan said. "We all have rifles that we perform various movements with."

ROTC assistant professor Lt. Ryan Edwards said he is proud of how the team represented UT.

"This is a great way to show that the hard work that we put in pays off," Edwards said. "The fact that we're beating out the Naval Academy and West Point, along with some other military academies out there shows that the devotion and motivation of our students comes together to get the job done."

Edwards said representing UT is a priority for NROTC.

"We want to spread the name of UT," Edwards said. "Getting second place isn't bad, and we can probably get first place next year with a little bit more practice. We're



The UT Naval Reserve Officer's Training Corps placed second in the 2017 Mardi Gras Drill Meet at Tulane University.

Courtesy of UT Naval ROTC

willing to represent the University of Texas anywhere we can."

History junior Jeremy Cerf competed at the drill meet and said the skills he has

acquired from training for this competition will help him achieve his goal of becoming a Marine Corps officer after graduation. "Learning how to follow

instructions helps the overall picture of someone aspiring to become a Marine Corps officer," Cerf said.

Murickan said winning second place is a positive

ending to his senior year at UT.

"It's good to end on a high note," Murickan said. "It's good to finally place during my last drill competition. It feels good."

RESEARCH

Study: 'If-then' action plan helps students structure time, meet goals

By Chase Karacostas
@chasekaracostas

Even as a graduate student, Jin Seo struggled to balance personal goals with the research assigned to her. Seo, an educational psychology doctoral candidate, said she thought passion and determination was enough, but her personal goals kept slipping away. So she decided to find out why.

Through researching study habits, Seo discovered and decided to look into the effects of the "if-then" action plan. The plan is simple: Instead of trying to achieve abstract goals such as "I want to exercise more," individuals plan exactly when, where and how they exercise.

"Having a goal is completely different from achieving it," Seo said. "Research suggests that students don't feel that their goals are valuable or see any utility benefit ... So, when students set a goal but don't set a concrete plan to achieve it, they often fail to actually put in effort."

After conducting a pilot study, Seo received promising results showing the strategy can be applied to any goal, self-set or assigned. Subjects who used the plan

I'm really excited about this sort of intermediate step. When you're learning as a college student you're learning to set your own goals to achieve those goals.

—Rebecca Steingut, Co-author of study

outperformed those who didn't because they outlined when and where to achieve their goals and prevented distractions, Seo said.

Seo found that the plan created tension — pressure to complete a task — and greatly increased the likelihood of attaining personal aims.

Rebecca Steingut, an educational psychology graduate student and co-author of the study, said this kind of goal-setting is paramount to college students, who are experiencing a new level of freedom.

"I'm really excited about this as sort of intermediate step," Steingut said. "When you're learning as a college student, you're learning to set your own goals to achieve those goals."

Compared to high

school, college is incredibly unstructured, and students without organizational skills can flounder easily, Seo said. This method of goal achievement can help students by giving them structure they create themselves, thereby increasing self-reliance.

Marlone Henderson, an associate professor of psychology and co-author of the study, said students should learn how to use the "if-then" plan as freshmen to set them on a better path for the next four years.

"We can teach them the benefits of this," Henderson said. "At some level it's just informing them about this finding, letting them know the impact and the power of these plans, and I really see it as a tool to help students."

SG

continues from page 1

said. "I think that we can do more to really engage the student body, and I think that we're going to put everything we have, 115 percent, into the next seven days."

An executive alliance needs more than 50 percent of the vote to win the general election. In a runoff election, only two alliances from the first round move to the second round for a final election cycle. The Carter-O'Connell and Guzman-Wolf tickets started campaigning at 12:01 a.m. today.

Government junior Isaiah Carter declined to comment. Alejandrina Guzman, government and Mexican-American studies senior, said is excited to improve her campaign.

"I think that it's just amazing to know what an awesome team we all have," Guzman said. "(I'll) just keep smiling, keep laughing and keep being that positive person that I've been throughout this entire season."

Burley, a philosophy and government junior, said the disqualification is disheartening but is not the end of the world.

"I think we did an awesome job," Burley said. "I hope going forward that both of these candidates, who I love to death and who are awesome, all really work to represent all those students, and I hope they can push forward not a political agenda, but a Longhorn agenda."

Burley said his team is not planning to file an appeal to the ESB for the disqualification.



THE DAILY TEXAN
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CITY

At 'Hack the Traffic,' citizens can drive solutions using smart data

By Tonya Chen
@thedailytexan

On Saturday, Austinites will be given the green light to design solutions to the city's traffic problems.

Austin's Transportation Department and UT's Center for Transportation Research (CTR) are teaming up to host the first ATX Hack the Traffic hackathon. Participants will have the opportunity to use traffic data to address Austin's transportation problems. The idea for the hackathon comes from Data Rodeo, a project that aims to collect transportation data and make it publicly available.

"We have an amazing tech-oriented citizenry here," said John Clary, co-technical lead for ATX Hack the Traffic and a systems analyst for Austin's transportation department. "We want to tap into that and encourage innovation and transparency, by opening up our data to the public."

Last year Austin was one of the seven finalists in the Smart City Challenge, in which the U.S. Department of

Transportation asked cities to design ideas for a technologically-integrated transportation system. While Austin didn't win the final grant, Clary said the city is still looking at ways to improve its infrastructure, starting by making traffic data available to municipalities, researchers, companies and the public.

"It's about building a relationship between the public and government in a new way, a technological way," Clary said. "Smart cities aren't just about buying technology. To me being a smart city means making the most of the resources that we have."

Brandy Savarese, network modeling associate at CTR and coordinator of ATX Hack the Traffic, said one goal of the hackathon is to continue the momentum of building Austin as a smart city.

"After a day of discussing the challenges, accomplishments, experiments at the hackathon, we hope that participants will continue working on (their) projects," Savarese said.

Austin currently collects transportation data using Blue-

tooth sensors at various road intersections around the city.

"When you drive by and you have a Bluetooth-enabled device such as your car or cell phone, the sensor will pick up a tag from your device and record (the device)," Savarese said.

ATX Hack the Traffic participants will use this Bluetooth sensor data to work on five different prompts, which range from creating a vehicle detection program that runs on a single-board computer to creating a web application that maps the transportation network. Participants also have the option of working on transportation problems they think are most important.

Clary said he hopes one outcome of the event will be finding an alternative to Bluetooth sensors, because the current sensors are expensive. "(The hackathon) is an opportunity to find low-cost technology infrastructure while giving people real-world experience and opportunities to work with other engineers and city planners," Clary said.

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FORUM

National affairs consume campus politics

By Jordan Shenhar
and Emily Vernon
Daily Texan Forum Editors

For the third consecutive year, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on Student Government election day, and so the UT student body will enjoy another week of campaigning. Much of the conversation surrounding this week's festivities has centered on the degree to which SG should speak out on national and local political affairs. Our Forum contributions for this week focus on that subject, as well as The Daily Texan editorial board's non-endorsement in the Executive Alliance race.

The first, by soon-to-be lame duck SG President Kevin Helgren, discusses why student leaders should serve as advocates for their constituents. He defends the introduction of partisan politics into SG and details how student issues are inevitably intertwined with national affairs. The second, by his 2016 executive alliance opponent Kallen Dimitroff, criticizes the editorial board's refusal to endorse a ticket. Dimitroff argues that the Daily Texan Editorial Board has an obligation to endorse in the race when appropriate, and that their failure to do so this election cycle

highlights what she sees as a greater trend of SG-related ignorance in the paper.

On Dimitroff's point, we'd like to clarify that the Editorial Board's non-endorsement was not a discouragement from voting, but rather a vehicle to express their doubts that any of the executive alliance tickets are equipped to manage student affairs in accordance with their perception of the University's needs and desires. And both the Forum team and the editorial board have agreed with Dimitroff's belief in the importance of Student Government through the duration of the election process. We look forward to following the race as it continues.

Next week, we'll highlight some experiences of direct, targeted incitement that students of color and religious minorities have experienced on and around campus — harassment of the sort that falls outside the bounds of the First Amendment's protections on hate speech. We'll also turn our focus to the Texas Legislature, which will begin debating SB 6 — the controversial "bathroom bill" — on Tuesday. As always, if you have any thoughts on these topics or any others, send us an email at editor@dailytexanonline.com. We look forward to hearing from you!



Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

Vice presidential candidate Micky Wolf speaks at the Daily Texan SG candidate forum on Feb. 27. He and Alejandrina Guzman face Isaiah Carter and Sydney O'Connell in a runoff next week.

Shenhar is a Plan II, economics, and government senior from Westport, Connecticut. Vernon is a rhetoric and writing sophomore from The Woodlands.

FORUM

Campus leaders must dare to be boldly political

By Kevin Helgren
Student Government President
@KevinHelgren

I'll preface this piece by reiterating — as I've done time and time again — that I have been, am and always will be able and willing to advocate for all students on our campus.

My approach to the office of student body president has been starkly different than the approaches of most — if not all — of my predecessors. That isn't to say that my approach was better than others' or that theirs were better than mine — but there's a clear difference. I've had a number of people ask me about my tendency to take bold stances on partisan issues, so I thought I'd take this opportunity to explain myself publicly.

First, the claim that the student experience is impermeable to politics makes little sense to me. I've heard a handful of people say that Student Government leaders should spend less time talking about politics and more time focusing on student issues; however, as the philosopher Pericles once said, "Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you." The student experience is informed by the many facets of one's identity, including skin color, sexual orientation, gender and faith. In light of this, I respectfully decline your request that I focus less on politics and more on student issues — the two are inseparable.

Second, I've had a few students ask me if I've ever considered the fact that taking bold, partisan stances on contentious issues may result in certain groups of students feeling isolated. To answer the question simply: Yes, I have considered that. But I've also considered the fact that nothing I say or do will ever make every single person happy. As soon as this dawned on me,



Student Government President Kevin Helgren speaks during the Feb. 1 SG assembly meeting. Helgren's open approach to partisan politics marks a departure from the status quo of SG from the era before Xavier Rotnofsky and Rohit Mandlapu's tenure at the top of the organization's leadership.

Chase Karacosta
Daily Texan file photo

I stopped trying to make everyone happy and started taking bold stances on controversial issues. I refuse to let the comfort levels of people who subscribe to opposing political ideologies take precedence over the teachings of my moral compass.

I said at the beginning of this piece that I am able and willing to advocate for all students on campus. Let me put this into context. I took a very strong stance against the hateful, offensive bake sale hosted by the Young Conservatives of Texas; however, if a student from this group reaches out to me and asks to talk about creating more acces-

sible mental health resources on campus, I would gladly sit down and have that conversation. Similarly, I was relentless in expressing my opposition to and disdain for Donald Trump during the presidential election; however, if a Trump supporter sends me an email and asks to have a conversation about college affordability, I would welcome that dialogue with open arms. My willingness to sit down and engage in conversation isn't the culprit; feelings of discomfort are. And it's OK to be uncomfortable — that's how we grow.

I'll be the first to concede that I haven't

executed this position flawlessly. What I can say, though, is that I've brought every ounce of energy and emotion I have to this position. Even so, I've done and said things that have upset people. And that's OK — because leaders who try to make everyone happy while occupying inherently political positions are lukewarm leaders.

Neutrality is a stance; silence is deafening. I implore you to do and say things that push you closer to the right side of history.

Helgren is a neuroscience and psychology senior. He also serves as the president of Student Government.

FORUM

Editorial Board abdicates responsibility in non-endorsement

By Kallen Dimitroff
Former SG Presidential Candidate
@K_Dimitroff1

Editor's note: This piece original ran online on March 1, prior to the conclusion of the opening round of voting for executive alliance, when there were still three campaigns left in the race.

This Wednesday, I had the displeasure of reading the Daily Texan Editorial Board's lack of endorsement in this year's SG Presidential election. Upon completing the article I have really only the same feelings I have always held about The Texan's coverage of SG — you all just got it so incredibly wrong.

The Daily Texan, year after year, interjects their ideas about what SG ought to be without any understanding of how the organization actually functions. The framework by which reporters and the E-Board examine the organization is flawed and is solely shaped by whatever qualities happen to hold importance to them rather than a tangible understanding of the institution or players involved.

To say one alliance stood on opposite sides of a podium during a debate and frame

it as a bad thing is ludicrous when just a week earlier you called for diversity. To espouse the idea that framing SG around specific religious ideals would be a good thing is absolutely astounding. To vilify people for rules violations and spend several articles with exclusive coverage of those violations undermines the intense amount of play you gave to the idea that such violations didn't really matter last year.

I don't think your coverage of any of the alliances was equitable — not even at all. Failing to endorse a candidate because they weren't exactly the things the Editorial Board liked in this year's president only serves one end — that the entity with the largest endorsement reach has unequivocally done a disservice to students.

Student Government should be a space where students can feel advocated for — I will be the first to say I think Kevin has done a wonderful job on that front. However, it's also a place where thought out ideas can come to tangible solutions. It's a vehicle to take things straight to desks of Texas Legislators and register students to vote. It's why the SAC stands, and it's why we have an E-Bus. It's how stu-

dents get a word with the Dean of Students or President Fenves, and it's how service opportunities get expanded. When someone votes in an SG election, they are choosing who among their peers has the demeanor, ideas and good character to speak on their behalf at the highest levels.

I suppose I get it — the election is short and sometimes it can be difficult to unpack platforms and people. However, I feel that this morning's piece indicated one clear thing — Texan staff, you have not done your job of providing the University community with an equitable and reasonable judgment of the candidates before you. By failing to endorse you are further corroding the already coarse relationship SG has with the student body — one that you have undoubtedly exacerbated with your coverage. By injecting your own beliefs into what SG ought to be without what seems to me to be any firm context, you are undermining the very meaningful and powerful tool that it is. You had three choices, all from the top rungs of reputable organizations, students with impressive histories of advocacy on dozens of fronts, all of whom stood before you and

“
When someone votes in an SG election, they are choosing who among their peers has the demeanor, ideas and good character to speak on their behalf at the highest levels.

allowed you to cast your judgment to which you responded with the persistent mythos that SG isn't a worthy cause. The reality is that one of the current prospective alliances will win, and after receiving more access to candidates than any other group on campus (via the debate and questionnaire), you left hundreds of students who look to you for guidance irresponsibly unanswered.

Perhaps, if the Editorial Board has such strong convictions about what the office ought to be, you should just try to run yourself — I'd be happy to provide coverage.

Dimitroff is a BA '16 in government and history. She is a former SG presidential candidate served in the SG assembly for three years.

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RESEARCH

Genetic research advances cancer treatment at MD Anderson

By Michael Garcia
@alekasmars

After decades of genetic mystery, progressive advancements in biomedical and computer-aided research developed within the last 30 years have finally allowed researchers to uncover two distinctive pathways to managing, or potentially even ‘curing,’ cancer.

At The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Hospital and Research Center, John Weinstein, professor and dean of bioinformatics and computational biology, is on the forefront of 21st century cancer care.

The standard of cancer care has always revolved around three pillars: surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. To researchers, the limits of chemotherapies and radiations signal not the limits of medicine, but the beginning of opportunity.

“There is always something more we can do,” said Tri Vu, medical oncologist at Kelsey-Seybold Clinic.

With the work of researchers like Weinstein and the national network of medical oncologists, research is leading development to the future of modern cancer medicine: immunotherapies, bioinformatics and computational biology.

“Cancer is principally a disease of the genome; ge-

netic defects,” Weinstein said. “I calculated there are more code letters (of genes) than grains of sand in all the major beaches on earth.”

Cancer is a genetic disease. In the complex infrastructure of our DNA, genetic files can become corrupted, resulting in a multitude of health problems. Bioinformatics and computational biology utilize advanced algorithms to compute relationships between genes, disease and potential solutions.

“The latest new excitement is in immune therapy,” Weinstein said. “It’s essentially two kinds. One in which you take a person’s own white blood cells, do something to make them better at immune response and reinject them. The second is called ‘checkpoint immune inhibitors.’”

Cancer thrives on the ability to “disguise” itself by blocking molecular tags that would attract an immune response. Immunotherapy is a targeted treatment approach to trigger a patient’s immune system. The immune system can kill the cancer without the need of chemotherapies and radiations that poison an otherwise healthy body. Advancing immunotherapy medications like Opdivo, Yervoy and Keytruda, are already making extreme progress in the



Courtesy of MD Anderson

John Weinstein, professor and dean at MD Anderson Cancer Center, is at the forefront of modern cancer care.

reduction of tumor size and remission than some standard therapies.

Considering the advanced complexities of cancer’s genetics and the future of immunotherapy treatments, their individual successes will be dependent on each other.

“That brings up an interesting question: What does ‘cure’ mean,” Weinstein asked. “The simplest answer is, we don’t

know entirely.”

With the onset of artificial intelligence in the study of bioinformatics, the research of MD Anderson and Weinstein has progressed cancer medicine to an unprecedented point. Dealing with a disease when doctors hesitate to use the word “cure,” new forms of treatment could redefine the global definition of remission. Immunotherapies, bioinformatics and computational

biology will continue to play into each other’s success and ultimately, the drugs of the future.

“It’s less likely that we will cure cancer, (it’s more likely we will) turn them into chronic diseases that people can live with,” Weinstein said.

Weinstein said his dream is to continue his work.

“To find a major advancement in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, or dare

I say, cure, for cancer. Not just for the benefit of patients, but for their family, and friends who also suffer,” Weinstein said.

With the amazingly complex, but deeply valued research that Weinstein and thousands of researchers and medical doctors across the globe produce every day, it may be safe to assume that one day this research will make cancer history.

CARNAL

continues from page 8

The Carnal menu offers a fine-dining take on traditional barbecue cuts of meat that will not step on the toes of any purists in Austin. For one, the meat isn’t even smoked in an offset smoker the way Texans are used to.

Instead, the cuts are cooked in a mixture of fat

and marrow in an oven before being thrown on a charcoal grill to add a touch of charred smokiness to the meat before it’s served. This method leaves the food with a flavor unlike anything Texans normally associate with barbecue.

The highlight of Carnal’s Austin menu is undoubtedly the beef short rib. Cooked in bone marrow fat

and finished with a peppery charcoal crust, this giant hunk of rib meat delivers a sophisticated flavor usually reserved only for expensive cuts of duck or goose. The rib is further improved with a garnish of tomato relish, which is arguably a better pair with the meat than barbecue sauce.

Another impressive menu item is the two-day pork

shoulder. Cooked to optimal tenderness, the shoulder is sliced, stacked on a soft bun and served with toppings of coriander, charred pineapple and onion. The theme of pairing meat with fresh fruits and vegetables instead of strictly sauce works exceptionally well at Carnal.

Even the menu’s sides offer something new and exciting. The spicy potatoes, in partic-

ular, pack a flavorful punch courtesy of a delicious chili flake, garlic, thyme and fried egg sauce mixture. The avocado makes for a more refreshing side dish, combining diced avocados with two different tomatillo sauces, fresh jalapeno, epazote and pumpkin seeds.

While it shouldn’t be considered Texas barbecue, Carnal brings to Austin an excep-

tionally inventive approach to slow-cooking meats, and its refusal to mimic Texas tradition makes it that much more approachable for the locals.

“This food doesn’t really fit a certain category,” Zamaroy said. “It’s really just us trying to make things as good as possible for people to try and enjoy.”

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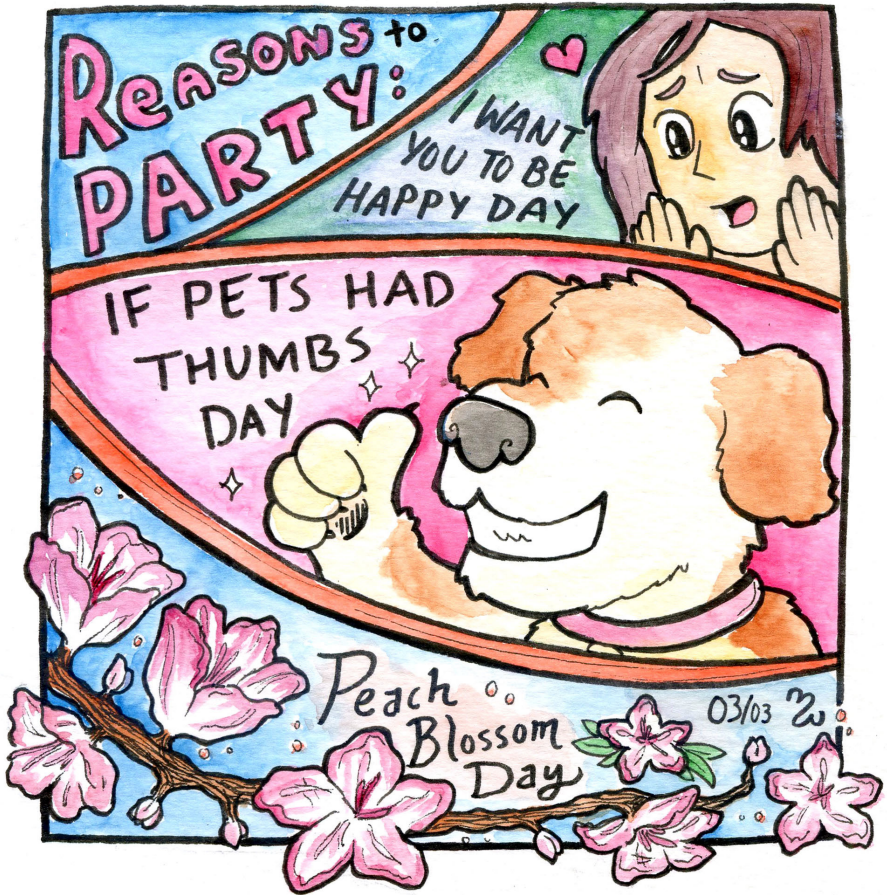
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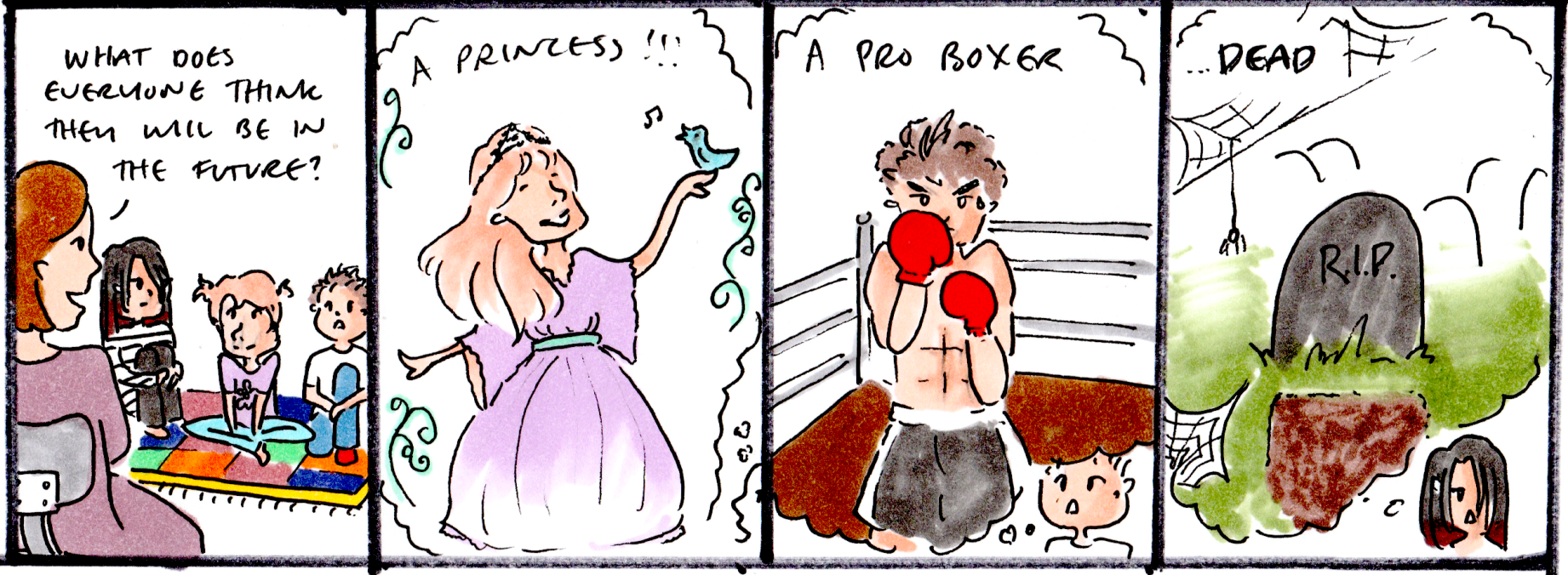
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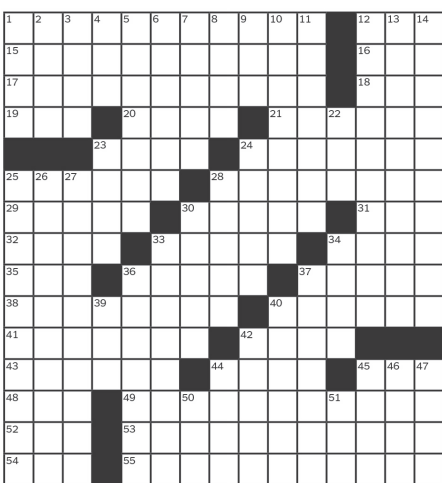
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8	5	4	2	9	3	1	6	7
1	2	9	7	4	6	8	3	5

The New York Times
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0127

- ACROSS**
- Feature of the European Union
 - Half a ten-spot
 - Slipped
 - Loafer alternative, for short
 - "Definitely not that!"
 - Part of a press kit
 - Flat, e.g.: Abbr.
 - See 34-Across
 - Grave robbers
 - Land in which political parties are banned
 - She created a monster
 - First name in hot dogs
 - Goes from stem to stern, maybe?
 - Off
 - Fix, as some neckwear
 - Bambino
 - Nix
 - Sound of the Northwest
 - With 20-Across, relocate
 - Many a large desk or sofa
 - Ingredients in the national drink of Puerto Rico, to Puerto Ricans
 - An elephant seal will fight for one
 - Vassal
 - Part-human gods
 - "Be my guest!"
 - Moors
 - Melodious
 - Romance novelist Tami
 - TV band
 - Part of some punt returns



PUZZLE BY JOHN GUZZETTA

- DOWN**
- Bradley with many medals
 - One getting framed
 - Brand with the flavor French Silk
 - It gets tons of traffic
 - Where many Loyalists resettled after the American Revolution
 - Real name of Ben, in a sci-fi classic
 - Actress Saoirse with two Oscar nominations
 - Stray calf: Var.
 - Decline in the wild
 - "Told ya!"
 - Not bedridden
 - Blew a gasket
 - Caves and coral reefs, for example
 - Cry when un gol is scored
 - Exceedingly
 - Red stuffing?
 - Sights at a martial arts center
 - Alto clef instrument
 - Mie — actress who played the Bond girl Kissy Suzuki
 - Turned tail
 - Figures in some univ. classes
 - Dance bit?

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Taylor recognized for dominant defense

By Sydney Rubin
@sydneyrrubin

You often have to look past the box score to recognize Brianna Taylor's impact on the hardwood.

The senior's significance on the court stretches far beyond scoring or rebounding, steals or assists. There's no denying Taylor's athleticism, but her defensive prowess and dedication to doing the dirty work came to the forefront Wednesday when she earned the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year award — her first individual honor since arriving on the 40 Acres in 2013.

"I actually jumped up and down in the elevator," Taylor said, upon learning of the achievement.

Taylor said receiving the award was a great honor.

"I owe it all to my team and my coaches for emphasizing defense and it's a huge part of what this team is," Taylor said. "I owe it to my team for pushing me everyday."

Pressuring opponents on the perimeter is Taylor's craft on a Texas squad that holds opponents to 36.3 percent from the field and allows only 61.5 points per game — ranking second in the Big 12 in both categories.

Junior guard Brooke McCarty, who became the first player in program history to claim the Big 12 Player of the Year title, praises the threat Taylor poses on defense. When McCarty sees her backcourt



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Senior guard Brianna Taylor has earned the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year award after leading Texas on defense this season.

teammate lock in on an opponent, she thinks, "You're not gonna get past her."

"I think Bri works harder than anybody on the court," McCarty said. "I'll put her up against anyone in the country any day. I just think that her getting that award kind of boosts her confidence. The world's finally seeing that she's important too."

Taylor's humble demeanor is undoubtedly appreciated by her teammates and

head coach Karen Aston, who constantly emphasizes the importance of a "team-first" mentality.

"The people I appreciate coaching the most are the ones that show up everyday and work," Aston said. "It's not necessarily the ones that score the most points or the flashiest ones. A coach appreciates people that work everyday."

Taylor's development on the court parallels the pro-

gram's progress over the past four seasons. The Longhorns' two seniors, Taylor and center Kelsey Lang, have played a crucial role in reclaiming Texas' status as a national contender under Aston — the Big 12 Coach of the Year.

"Their biggest legacy is being a part of getting Texas back to the place that it belongs," Aston said. "If you ask people across the country if Texas is back on the national scene or do you think they're

competitive on a national level, I think everybody would answer the question, 'Yes.'"

Only a few games remain having "Texas" sewn across her jersey, but Taylor's not done yet. She has a chance to display her defensive dominance at the Big 12 Tournament this weekend in Oklahoma City. The Longhorns will face either Oklahoma State or Kansas in the quarterfinals on Saturday at 6 p.m.

SOFTBALL



Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

Senior pitcher Tiarra Davis has been reliable on the mound during her career at Texas.

Longhorns hit the road for tough series

By Wills Layton
@willsdebeast

Goodbye California beaches, hello Arizona deserts.

The Longhorns travel to Tuscon this weekend to take on the No. 6 Arizona Wildcats, a week after competing in the Mary Nutter Classic in Cathedral City, California.

The Longhorns took on several ranked teams to start the season, but none as highly ranked as Arizona. Head coach Connie Clark knows the road trip will be a challenge, as the Wildcats are one of the most balanced teams in the nation.

"Arizona is going to be tough, and it's on their turf," Clark said. "They've got a real balanced team, they've got a lot of speed, they've got power, they've got great pitching. On their turf, it's going to be a big challenge."

Clark stresses the fact that no matter who the team plays, it has to be ready for anything. Whether the Longhorns stack up against a top-10 opponent or a struggling one, Clark always expects the highest level of competition from her team.

"You don't have an easy opponent out there regardless of who you're facing," Clark said. "It looks great on paper, but we've got to go out and compete and it

really doesn't matter what the poll says. We've got to go out and compete day in and day out."

The team is coming off three straight losses — two to ranked teams and one to underdog Texas State on Wednesday. But senior Tiarra Davis sees something special in the team even when it's losing.

"Something that I learned about this team is our grit and our will to fight even when we're down in ball games," Davis said. "We never quit. Seeing that we can compete with some of the best teams in the country so early is something that is really good for our underclassmen to see, because that shows that we haven't peaked yet, and that the sky's the limit."

Grit and mental toughness will be the key to success this season, and Davis knows that's especially important on the road.

Davis and the Longhorns look to battle in the first game of their three-game series against the Wildcats tonight at 7 p.m.

"Going to Arizona, it's about grit and just wanting to win," Davis said. "I feel like nobody really expects us to win when we go to Arizona, because they're the No. 6 team in the nation, so it's about just going out there and competing every pitch."

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Yancy, Cleare prepare for hard task on Senior Night

By Shane Lewis
@theREALsplewis

Seniors Kendal Yancy and Shaquille Cleare stand 40 minutes from the finish line.

On Saturday's Senior Night, the two will play their final home game at the Frank Erwin Center when Texas takes on No. 11 Baylor.

In spite of a season filled with letdowns and losses, head coach Shaka Smart praised his seniors for their commitment to the team.

"Oh we definitely have benefited (from them)," Smart said. "They've had some really good moments. They've had some times where we've been able to win some games that we would not have won without them. I think that's what it's all about."

Both players showed improvement in their final season with the Longhorns.

Before being sidelined midseason with a left ankle injury, Yancy was averaging a career-high in points, steals and blocks per game.

The guard experienced limited playing time after being cleared from the injury, but his production has ramped back up over the past several weeks.

For Cleare, this year has been a revelation. The center is averaging career highs across the board and has stepped up as a major offensive weapon for the team. After scoring in double digits only twice last year, Cleare has reached the mark 12 times this season.

Their individual successes have been impressive, but Smart has been just as impressed with what Yancy and Cleare have been able to do off the court.

"You know, one thing I feel really good about is that they're both on track to graduate," Smart said.



Gabriel Lopez | Daily Texan Staff

Despite a frustrating season, senior guard Kendal Yancy has improved his game in his final season in burnt orange.

"When we first got here, there were several things up in the air about (graduating). They've done a good job of putting in the time and the work, in some cases taking more classes than they needed at the moment, so they could put themselves in that position."

Seizing a victory against Baylor will be a tall task for Texas. The Bears have proven to be a threat with their suffocating brand of defense. Opposing teams are averaging a conference low 62.4 points per game against Baylor and are shooting an abysmal 39.5 percent from the field.

The Bears are coming off of a convincing 71-62 win over No. 10 West Virginia, bouncing back after a tight loss to Iowa State.

The Longhorns have lost six straight games — the last three by double digits.

The amount of losing this year has been disappointing for a senior class with high preseason expectations, but Yancy said

“

Any hope we can find we'll take it and run with it.

—Kendal Yancy
Senior guard

the team hasn't given up on a late run.





"It's really hard (losing), especially for the seniors," Yancy said. "We have to be able to respond after losses because there's still hope. Any hope we can find we'll take it and run with it."

The Longhorns' regular season finale against Baylor is their last chance to capture some "hope" before the Big 12 Tournament.

In addition to Yancy and Cleare, Texas will send off graduate transfer Mareik Isom and senior walk-on Ryan McClurg. The Senior Night clash tips off at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

SIDELINE

NBA

	WARRIORS 87
	BULLS 94
	HORNETS 103
	SUNS 120

TOP TWEET

**Dorian Leonard**
@dorianleonard3

"I see y'all still sleeping on me"

TODAY IN HISTORY

1968

Montreal's Jean Beliveau becomes the second NHL player in history to score 1,000 points.

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Men's tennis looks for revenge against No. 3 Wake Forest

No. 8 Texas (12-2) still remembers the sting of defeat after its loss to No. 3 Wake Forest earlier in the season.

The Longhorns have a chance for revenge as they take on the Demon Deacons Saturday at 3 p.m. at Caswell Tennis Center. The rematch will kick off Texas' two-match weekend.

"They're obviously a great team, but so are we," redshirt freshman Leonardo Telles said. "We're all pumped up to play them again."

Every point is crucial whenever the two teams face off. The last four matches between Texas and Wake Forest resulted in nail-biting 4-3 duels. The Longhorns hold a 3-1 record in those meetings.

"Our players know just how tough Wake Forest is," assistant head coach Bruce Berque said. "They came up just a bit short last time, but they'll be ready."

Texas is making its season debut at Caswell — a court in West Campus known for having a large student crowd — after posting a perfect 8-0 record at Weller Indoor Tennis Courts.

"The team takes pride in winning at home," Berque said. "They're definitely looking forward to having that big home crowd come Saturday."

Texas wraps up its home stand Sunday at 3 p.m. with a match against Rice at Westwood Country Club. With the second half of the season now underway, the Longhorns recognize the need to finish strong.

"The first half of the season is important because that's when you get better," Berque said. "But the mark you make is what you do at the end of the year. It's not how you start, it's how you finish."

—Justin Martinez

MUSIC

Dedicated UT jazz pianist enchants audience, peers

By Hannah Plantowsky
@thedailytexan

Austin Thomas’ hands dance across ivory piano keys in a chaotic whirlwind, but the music they create is clear and harmonious.

Thomas, a jazz performance junior, is the pianist for UT’s highest esteemed jazz ensemble, the Jazz Orchestra. His upcoming performances at the North Sea Jazz Festival and Montreux Jazz Festival are only the most recent achievements in his career that began in the sixth grade.

Even when piano was just a nonchalant pastime, Thomas said playing was always a pursuit for him.

“I definitely wanted to play all the time,” Thomas said. “Whenever I was bored, I just did it instead of doing nothing.”

Though he started playing at an age when most young musicians grow tired of arduous practice schedules, Thomas said he was always motivated to play, especially when he competed against his friends.

“I had this friend who played piano — his mom had him taking lessons — and then next thing, my mom signed me up for the same lessons,” Thomas said. “He obviously was better

than me when we started, but I remember thinking, ‘Okay, I need to be better than him,’ so I made it happen pretty fast.”

Will Levine, advertising junior and childhood friend of Thomas, said he always respected Thomas’ dedication. Even though Thomas played at the piano for hours when they were together, Levine said he always admired his devotion.

“Every time I slept over at his house, whenever I woke up in the morning, he’d be at the piano,” Levine said.

Levine said he is still in awe of Thomas’ raw talent and learned skill.

“Piano gave him the best shot to excel, and here he is, excelling,” Levine said.

During Thomas’ senior year of high school, he was selected through an audition process by the Grammy Foundation as one of a few high school aged students to perform for honorees during Grammy week. The jazz band, comprised of a handful of teens, played for many high profile audiences, including guests from the nominee party and several after parties hosted by the Grammy Foundation.

“I remember thinking, ‘Whoa, all these other high school kids can really play. I need to really practice,’”



Austin Thomas, a junior music major, practices after hours at Butler Music School on Tuesday, Feb. 28. Thomas has an impressive piano background and has a promising future in the jazz field.

Alec Blair
Daily Texan Staff

Thomas said.

Thomas said he and the other musicians still trade one other’s music, and push one other to excel. Fellow jazz performance senior Chase Goldman said Thomas’ drive to improve has carried into his career as a musician in college as well.

“He really is someone who enjoys spending time at the piano and working at his craft,”

Goldman said.

Goldman, the bass player in the Jazz Orchestra that will be performing in Europe this summer, said he appreciates Thomas for not only his skill as a band mate but also for his shared knowledge.

“When we started playing together he was really knowledgeable and great at showing me things that I didn’t know,” Goldman said. “For me, play-

ing with him when I was just coming into school was very helpful because he was teaching me all these new things.”

Thomas said he feels the same way as Goldman about learning from his peer musicians.

“The UT jazz community is very tight because there’s not that many of us,” Thomas said. “They’re all really great players, so I’m just learning a lot getting

to play with them.”

Thomas said he really values the way fellow UT musicians have affected his life, and hopes to return that favor by passing his knowledge on to other players.

“The ultimate goal is to keep doing music as long as I can,” Thomas said. “And to teach it, maybe not to teach it, but I like to spread my knowledge to other people.”

FOOD REVIEW | CARNAL



Sam Dier | Daily Texan Staff

Chefs James Zamaroy and Aaron Saurer combined the cuisines of their hometowns in New York and Kentucky at their restaurant Carnal. Carnal is set up in the kitchen of Austin’s Parlor and Yard.

Chefs bring Brooklyn smoky meats to barbecue country

By Stephen Acevedo
@thedailytexan

At Brooklyn-based Carnal, chefs Aaron Saurer and James Zamaroy have fused the New York City and Kentucky cuisines of their hometowns. In a bold business move, the duo has brought their menu of slow cooked meats to Austin, Texas, where barbecue is viewed as nothing less than sacred.

During their three-month southern retreat from Brooklyn’s cold winter, inhospitable to their outdoor market location, Zamaroy and Saurer have set up camp in the kitchen of Austin’s Parlor & Yard.

“We were actually approached about this by someone who wasn’t affiliated with Carnal or Parlor & Yard at all,” Saurer said. “He just came to us and said that we should take over their kitchen to create some sort of draw that the food they were serving wasn’t already.”

Zamaroy said that although it’s still too difficult to have permanent locations in Texas and New York at the same time, he is not totally counting out a possible expansion to Austin in the future.

“We would certainly like a presence here,” Zamaroy said. “You’re seeing a lot of

these cool restaurants pop up on the East Side right now, and I don’t think either of us would object to having something there eventually.”

Coming down from New York to Central Texas to try their hand at barbecue may seem foolish to some, but Zamaroy and Saurer said serving barbecue isn’t even their true intention.

“This actually isn’t barbecue at all, and we kind of struggle with how to define it,” Zamaroy said. “What we’re doing here is a mixture of what we learned

CARNAL

Location: 601 W. Sixth St.

Hours: Monday–Thursday 4 p.m.–10 p.m., Friday–Sunday 2 p.m.–8 p.m.

Rating: ★★★★★

from working in fine dining and stuff that comes from our own minds. We’re not trying to ‘New York’ anyone’s ‘Texas.’”

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